WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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- 1. A method of inactivating a viral or microbial agent present in a biological source material, comprising the step of contacting the biological source material with a solution comprising an effective amount of an active ingredient, wherein the active ingredient is an amphipathic charged amine or an amphipathic charged amine oxide.
- 2. A method of inactivating a viral or microbial agent in

 10 a biological source material comprising the step of contacting
 the biological source material with a solution comprising an
 effective amount of an active ingredient, wherein the active
 ingredient is selected from the group consisting of:
 dimethyldecylamine, dimethyltridecylamine, dimethylundecylamine,
 dimethyldidecylamine, dimethyltetradecylamine,
 dimethylhexadecylamine, dimethyldecylamineoxide,
 dimethylundecylamineoxide, dimethyldidecylamineoxide,
 dimethytetradecylamineoxide and dimethyltridecylamineoxide.
- The method of claim 3, wherein the solution further
 comprises glycerol.
 - 4. The method of claim 4, wherein the active ingredient comprises between 0.001 to 10 percent of the solution.
 - 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the glycerol comprises between 0.6 to 6 percent of the solution.
- 25 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the glycerol comprises between 0.6 to 6 percent of the solution.

- 7. The method of claim 2, wherein the active ingredient is dimethyltetradecylamine.
- 8. The method of claim 1; wherein the agent is a member of the group consisting of:
- bacteria, yeast, fungi, mycoplasma, mammalian cells, other animal cells, viruses, or lipid enveloped viruses such as, Flaviviridae, Retroviridae, Togaviridae, Rhabdoviridae, Herpesviridae, VSV, SFV, HIV, MuLV, BVDV, and CMV.
- 9. The method of claim 2, wherein the agent is a member of the group consisting of:

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bacteria, yeast, fungi, mycoplasma, mammalian cells, other animal cells, viruses, or lipid enveloped viruses such as, Flaviviridae, Retroviridae, Togaviridae, Rhabdoviridae, Herpesviridae, VSV, SFV, HIV, MuLV, BVDV, and CMV.